

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/045,414

Examiner

Malcolm D. Cribbs

Applicant(s)

MIKAEL ET AL.

Art Unit

2115

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication on 08/21/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 24-29 and 33-46.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 09/14/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 09/14/06
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brent E. Vecchia on September 13, 2006.

### IN THE CLAIMS

#### List of Claims:

36. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a memory having a plurality of resources being accessed by a plurality of processes, and a plurality of semaphores associated with the plurality of processes, wherein ~~there are less semaphores than resources~~ each of the plurality of

semaphores do not correspond to any one particular resource; and

a processor coupled with the memory, wherein the processor is capable of executing the plurality of processes, the processor is further to:

request access to a resource for a first process of the plurality of processes, the first process having a corresponding first semaphore of the plurality of semaphores;

determine whether the resource is being accessed by a second process of the plurality of processes, the second process having a corresponding second semaphore of the plurality of semaphores; and

deny the first process access to the resource if the resource is being accessed  
5 by the second process as indicated by a lock on the resource, wherein the lock is indicated at the second semaphore.

44. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a plurality of shared resources;

10 one or more circuits to perform a first process and a second process;

a first semaphore system including a first semaphore corresponding to the first process;

a second semaphore system including a second semaphore corresponding to the second process;

15 one or more arbiters to arbitrate for access to the plurality of shared resources for the first and second processes based at least in part on information in the first and second semaphore systems; and

wherein ~~the apparatus includes less semaphores than shared resources~~ the first semaphore system does not correspond to any one shared resource.

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Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

-- METHOD OF ACCESSING A RESOURCE BY A PROCESS BASED ON A  
SEMAPHORE OF ANOTHER PROCESS --

***Conclusion***

5 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the  
examiner should be directed to Malcolm D. Cribbs whose telephone number is 571-272-  
5689. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-430PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's  
supervisor, Thomas Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for  
10 the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the  
Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for  
published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.  
Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.  
15 For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should  
you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic  
Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a  
USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information  
system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Malcolm D Cribbs  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2115

September 13, 2006

  
**CHUN CAO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**